# REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE BATH COUNTY CLERK

For The Year Ended December 31, 2009



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE BATH COUNTY CLERK

For The Year Ended December 31, 2009

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the Bath County Clerk's audit for the year ended December 31, 2009. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

# **Financial Condition:**

Excess fees increased by \$14,343 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$59,533 as of December 31, 2009. Revenues decreased by \$104,018 from the prior year and expenditures decreased by \$118,361.

# **Deposits:**

The County Clerk's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

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# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Carolyn Belcher, Bath County Judge/Executive The Honorable Carolyn Rogers, Bath County Clerk Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

# **Independent Auditor's Report**

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees regulatory basis of the County Clerk of Bath County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2009. This financial statement is the responsibility of the County Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the County Clerk's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2009, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated July 16, 2010 on our consideration of the Bath County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



209 ST. CLAIR STREET



The Honorable Carolyn Belcher, Bath County Judge/Executive The Honorable Carolyn Rogers, Bath County Clerk Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County Clerk and Fiscal Court of Bath County, Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

Auditor of Public Accounts

July 16, 2010

# BATH COUNTY CAROLYN ROGERS, COUNTY CLERK STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

# For The Year Ended December 31, 2009

Re	veni	ues
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State Revenue Supplement		\$ 57,376
State Fees For Services		2,070
Fiscal Court		7,525
Licenses and Taxes:		
Motor Vehicle-		
Licenses and Transfers	\$ 358,330	
Usage Tax	367,922	
Tangible Personal Property Tax	675,763	
Lien Fees	8,432	
Other-		
Marriage Licenses	2,983	
Deed Transfer Tax	15,841	
Delinquent Tax	 203,740	1,633,011
Fees Collected for Services:		
Recordings-		
Deeds, Easements, and Contracts	7,960	
Real Estate Mortgages	15,110	
Chattel Mortgages and Financing Statements	34,638	
Powers of Attorney	745	
Affordable Housing Trust	14,376	
All Other Recordings	12,407	
Charges for Other Services-		
Candidate Filing Fees	600	
Copywork	 3,475	89,311
Other:		
Miscellaneous		2,052
Interest Earned		333
Total Revenues		1,791,678

# BATH COUNTY

# CAROLYN ROGERS, COUNTY CLERK

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31, 2009 (Continued)

# Expenditures

Payments to State:			
Motor Vehicle-	¢.	056 074	
Licenses and Transfers	\$	256,374	
Usage Tax		356,905	
Tangible Personal Property Tax		239,168	
Licenses, Taxes, and Fees-		2 < 200	
Delinquent Tax		36,290	
Legal Process Tax		11,517	
Affordable Housing Trust		14,376	\$ 914,630
Payments to Fiscal Court:			
Tangible Personal Property Tax		62,863	
Delinquent Tax		17,306	
Deed Transfer Tax		15,050	
Tax Bill Preparation		1,580	96,799
Payments to Other Districts:			
Tangible Personal Property Tax		346,902	
Delinquent Tax		99,255	446,157
Payments to Sheriff			1,458
Payments to County Attorney			30,269
Operating Expenditures and Capital Outlay:			
Personnel Services-			
Deputies' Salaries		114,613	
Employee Benefits-			
Employer's Paid Health Insurance		26,908	
Materials and Supplies-		,	
Office Supplies		5,464	
Other Charges-		,	
Dues		540	
Postage		2,174	
Utilities		1,705	
Maintenance Fees		9,207	
Refunds		1,481	162,092
			•

# BATH COUNTY

# CAROLYN ROGERS, COUNTY CLERK

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31, 2009

(Continued)

# Expenditures (Continued)

Operating Expenditures: (Continued)

Dale	Service:
17611	Service:

Lease Purchases	\$ 4,816	
Total Expenditures		\$ 1,656,221
Net Revenues		135,457
Less: Statutory Maximum		 72,324
Excess Fees		63,133
Less: Expense Allowance		 3,600
Excess Fees Due County for 2009  Respect to Final County Large 14, 2010	45 000	59,533
Payments to Fiscal Court - January 14, 2010 March 11, 2010	45,000 12,481	 57,481
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit		\$ 2,052

# BATH COUNTY NOT<u>ES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT</u>

December 31, 2009

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

# B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the County Clerk as determined by the audit. KRS 64.152 requires the County Clerk to settle excess fees with the fiscal court by March 15 each year.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting, revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive), at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2009 services
- Reimbursements for 2009 activities
- Payments due other governmental entities for December tax and fee collections and payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2009

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

# C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the County Clerk's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

BATH COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2009 (Continued)

# Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county official and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a cost sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plan, which covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability and death benefits to plan members. Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute.

Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5 percent of their salary to the plan. Nonhazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 6 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 13.50 percent for the first six months and 16.16 percent for the last six months.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65. Nonhazardous employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 must meet the rule of 87 (members age plus years of service credit must equal 87, and the member must be a minimum of 57 years of age) or the member is age 65, with a minimum of 60 months service credit.

Historical trend information showing the CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

# Note 3. Deposits

The Bath County Clerk maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1) (d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the County Clerk and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

### Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the County Clerk's deposits may not be returned. The Bath County Clerk does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of December 31, 2009, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

BATH COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2009 (Continued)

Note 4. Grant

The Bath County Clerk received a local records microfilming grant from the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives in the amount of \$14,157. No funds were expended during the year. The unexpended grant balance was \$14,157 as of December 31, 2009.

Note 5. Leases

#### A. Xerox

On November 13, 2008, the Bath County Clerk entered into a lease agreement with Xerox to lease a copy machine as well as provide for maintenance and supplies for the Clerk's office. The agreement requires 49 monthly payments of \$378. The County Clerk is in compliance with the terms of the agreement as of December 31, 2009.

# B. Data Records Management Services

On November 13, 2009, the Bath County Clerk entered into an annual maintenance agreement with Data Records Management Services to provide annual support maintenance for their indexing and delinquent tax systems. The agreement requires an annual payment of \$7,612. The County Clerk is in compliance with the terms of the agreement as of December 31, 2009.

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



The Honorable Carolyn Belcher, Bath County Judge/Executive The Honorable Carolyn Rogers, Bath County Clerk Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

> Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the Bath County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated July 16, 2010. The County Clerk's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

# Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Bath County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

# **Compliance And Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Bath County Clerk's financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2009, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Bath County Fiscal Court, and the Department for Local Government and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

**Auditor of Public Accounts** 

July 16, 2010